

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 INR-07

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
NEA/ARN - MR. BULLEN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 031472

R 052232Z MAY 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USCINCEUR
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
UNCLASSIFIED

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AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

UNCLAS STATE 104774

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING MAY 5, 1975:

QUOTE:

WHAT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES REGARDING ANY
NEW MILITARY OBLIGATIONS TO COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REQUESTING AMERICAN MILITARY HELP?

A. THE QUESTION OF RECEIVING REQUESTS? OR ACTING ON SAID
REQUESTS, MARVIN? SO THAT I CAN UNDERSTAND --

Q. ACTING. DURING THE PERIOD OF THIS REASSESSMENT.

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW DURING THE PERIOD OF THE REASSESSMENT,
ACTION IS NOT TAKEN UPON NEW REPUESTS THAT MAY BE MADE.

Q. FROM ANYBODY?

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW, FROM ANYBODY IN THE MIDDLE EASTERN
AREA. THAT IS MY UNDERSTANDING.

Q. JUST TO BE SURE -- JUST TO BE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR -- IN
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OTHER WORDS, ANYONE WHO COMES TO WASHINGTON NOW AND
ASKS FOR MILITARY HELP FROM THE UNITED STATES -- ANY OF
THE CONFRONTATION STATES -- THEY WOULD BE TOLD THAT IT
WOULD HAVE TO BE DEFERRED UNTIL THE REASSESSMENT IS OVER?

A. THAT IS MY UNDERSTANDING, SIR, YES.

Q. JUST TO FINISH THAT UP -- WERE ANY COMMITMENTS MADE
TO KING HUSSEIN ON ANY MILITARY AID?

A. I AM UNAWARE OF ANY COMMITMENTS THAT WERE MADE TO
KING HUSSEIN.

Q. IS THE ASSESSMENT FINISHED? IF NOT FINISHED, HOW CLOSE TO BEING CONCLUDED IS THE ASSESSMENT?

A. IT IS NOT FINISHED. I CANNOT TELL YOU EXACTLY WHEN IT IS GOING TO BE FINISHED.

Q. DOES THE SECRETARY HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE DEATH OF AMBASSADOR KEATING?

A. I HOPE TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING ON THIS VERY SHORTLY.

WE RECEIVED WORD ABOUT THIS TRAGEDY AT ABOUT 11:15 A.M. I GOT A CALL FROM NEW YORK, AND AMBASSADOR KEATING WAS AT THE HARKNESS PAVILION AND AS A MATTER OF FACT HE HAD BEEN AMBULATORY FOR ABOUT THREE OR FOUR DAYS -- AND HE WAS SITTING IN THE CHAIR IN HIS ROOM, READING THE NEWS-PAPER. HE HAD A VERY SEVERE ATTACK AND HE DIED ABOUT ONE OR TWO MINUTES AFTER THAT. THIS WAS AT 11:15. BUT I WILL GET TO YOU A STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Q. WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME THAT THE SECRETARY SAW AMBASSADOR DINITZ?

A. I'LL HAVE TO CHECK. I JUST DON'T KNOW.

Q. DOES HE HAVE ANY PLANS TO SEE HIM IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

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A. I WOULD ASSUME THAT HE -- THEY SEE EACH OTHER VERY REGULARLY, AS YOU KNOW, BUT I CANNOT -- AS I RUN DOWN THE SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT TWO OR THREE DAYS -- I DO NOT RECALL THAT AMBASSADOR DINITZ IS ON IT. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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KUWAIT

JIDDA
DHAHRAN
JERUSALEM
KHARTOUM
MANAMA
TUNIS
TEL AVIV
TEHRAN
USCINCEUR
TRIPOLI
RABAT
LONDON
PARIS
MOSCOW
ROME
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